

DRUŠ. ISTRAŽ. ZAGREB  
GOD. 28 (2019),  
BR. 4,  
STR. 733-742

PRIKAZI

nih i organizacijskih problema. Zajedničke vizije nije bilo, a prema politici gajila se pasivnost. Višekratni pokušaji restrukturiranja i tehnološke obnove nisu dali rezultata. Poduzeće 3. maj bilo je u državnom vlasništvu sve do 2013., a od tada je u vlasništvu Uljanika d.d., koji je pak u većinskom vlasništvu sadašnjih i bivših radnika te raznih državnih fondova.

Sanja Puljar D'Alessio do kraja knjige ostaje vjerna relacijskom pristupu antropologiji organizacije 3. maja. Iako pret hodno daje bogatu i slojevit u sliku organizacijskih odnosa i njihova kretanja u vremenu, u zaključku se osvrće isključivo na provedeni metodološki postupak. Neovisno o tome, knjiga omogućuje i šire zaključke, ne samo o 3. maju nego i o transformaciji poslovnih organizacija u Hrvatskoj. Autorica identificira modernizacijski učinak i važne doprinose socijalističkog razdoblja, poštujući lokalno znanje radnika kazivača. Međutim, isto tako upozorava na to kako su zaostajanje u evoluciji stručnoga znanja i organizacijska inertnost dugoročno pridonijeli dezorganizaciji 3. maja, koja se odrazila u gubitku produktivnosti, inovativnosti, a time i konkurentnosti na tržištu. Razvidnim postaje zašto korijeni razvojnih problema u Hrvatskoj sežu mnogo dublje od "ortačkog kapitalizma", "privatizacije", "nepostojanja industrijske politike" ili "nebrige države". Manjkavosti institucija i javnih politika otežale su rješavanje zatečenih i novostvorenih problema od 1990-ih godina, ali mnogi od tih problema imaju dublju povijest i složeniju genealogiju, što Sanja Puljar D'Alessio zorno pokazuje. I zbog toga ova knjiga zaslužuje mjesto u odabranoj literaturi za proučavanje poslovnih organizacija u Hrvatskoj i njihovih promjena.

Domagoj Račić

<https://doi.org/10.5559/di.28.4.10>

## **Soumitra Sharma, Mato Mikić THE LOST CAUSE: SOCIALISM DRIFTED IN OBLIVION**

Sveučilišna tiskara d.o.o., 2019., 192 str.

This is the kind of book which must be read deeply, brooded over, assessed internally and argued externally. In the book, which is enormously scholarly, though completely unassuming in its erudition, and so persuasive through formal opinions and clarity of conclusions, authors Soumitra Sharma and Mato Mikić present in an eclectic manner their economic interpretation of the history of socialism, for it has, as they point out firmly in the title, 'drifted into oblivion'. A correct interpretation of history is important because it has a bearing on our future conduct. The virtue of this work is that the authors traced causal relations between economic and non-economic events by combining theoretical premises of socialism with purely empirical viewpoints that came out of scientific proficiency and the experience of living in the age of socialist aspirations. The authors, proven men of a penetrating intellect, the keenest scientific sensibility and a predilection for theoretical reasoning, found unlimited material for the social phenomenon called Socialism. Whether the reader inclines towards this topic (and/or authors' comprehension of the philosophy and history of socialism) or not, he/she cannot fail to find this book absorbing.

All social phenomena are the necessary resultants of historical conditions and of the socio-economic and political environment. In the modern world, the facility and greater frequency of communication and relations of every kind among all parts of the globe have also increased the

dependence of every fact; economic, political, juridical, ethical, artistic or scientific, upon the most remote and apparently unrelated conditions of life. Never was it more true than it is today that two social concepts exist side by side in every country – the faction of the idle or uselessly employed rich and the faction of the economically poor. When we survey modern conditions in search of a point from which to begin and trace out the tangled and tortuous path of civilization, we naturally focus on the criticism of capitalism by socialists and rejection of socialism by capitalists, based on the sheer question of what socialism promises and how much of its promise is realisable. Mikić and Sharma clearly state that the history of socialism is a progression of social stages which have preceded and succeeded each other. Hence, at a certain point society reached a stage when the interest of the community in the use of some forms of property became a derelict interest. The struggle for life, fought in the individual sphere at first, was ultimately transferred to the social, in the form of socialism; 'a struggle throughout the world and throughout history'. The satisfying of the moral sense of the individual and the economising of effort in society must proceed hand in hand in a progressive social evolution. In the end, competition is not a final condition, it is a stage in the evolution of cooperation. By evaluating socialism from different aspects, ranging from historical, philosophical, political, judicial, ... to even methodological (such as prescribed analytical tools), the authors put forward a variety of conditions which can challenge any social reformer. Namely, what is the final stage of social evolution?!

I have to say that it is not an easy task to give a reflection on the book in

general, without thoroughly studying the content. The book is divided into six chapters and an epilogue with the addition of suggested readings. After a short *Introduction on Socialism: What it Stands for?* in which socialism is defined as an ancient idea of organisation of social-economic life of the people based on equality, justice and social harmony, the authors in *Chapter 1, Philosophy and History of Socialism*, offer a short historical review of socialism as a political, social and economic phenomenon. Though the chapter is insightful in terms of clarification of the concept, it still lacks a deeper analysis on different types of socialism and some relevant persons (Ferdinand Lassalle, Robert Owen, Charles Fourier, Karl Rodbertus, Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, etc.). In this part the authors address socialism as a political dichotomy, a socialist political movement including a set of political philosophies that originated in the revolutionary movements of the mid-to-late 18th century, and showing concern for the social problems that were associated with capitalism. *Chapter 2, From Vedic Socialism to Lenin's and Gandhi's Socialism*, provides a brief overview of the socialism in the Indian Vedas, socialist economy of the Ptolemais, the Sumer and Babylonians, philosophical perspective of Plato's and Aristotle's views, Holy Bible teachings on socialist topics, then Marxian thoughts, and in the end, the socialism of Lenin and Ghandi. Such an illumination of the whole subject (of socialism) is rare in any book that one encounters, in other words, this part of the book is as brilliant as it is profound. *Chapter 3, Socialism in 20th Century: From Marxism to Maoism and Titoism*, explains in detail historical materialism and social classes presented in Marx's work, the relation between imperialism, democratic centralism, revolution, autonomism and anarchism, socialism and communism, affirmation of Leninism and Stalinism, and the development and the importance of Maoism and Titoism for the development of the political and pragmatic socio-economic policies. This chapter reflects on the

fact that the history of socialism in practice is a fascinating story. In *Chapter 4, Economics of Socialism (1): The Economic Theory of (Re)production*, we can find the evaluation of the foundations, i.e. the role of the State, the logic of socialist economics from the Marxian scheme of reproduction, Lenin's interpretation of that scheme to its application in the USSR and the objectives of economic policy and reproduction process within the USSR and Yugoslavia. In this part, the authors reveal the true pragmatism of socialist ideas. It is a very analytical part of the book which requires some knowledge and proficiency in economic theory and tools of economic analysis. *Chapter 5, Economics of Socialism: Methods of Economic Analysis and Planning*, deals with methods of economic analysis (with reflections on the circular flow of income, national accounting, elementary analytical framework, etc.) and planning (input-output analysis, some economic models, etc.) related to socialist economies. It is a logical continuation of the previous chapter with a more thorough analysis of various interrelated economic concepts, analytical solutions and processes which are highly essential, and as the authors point out, sometimes have to be addressed-influenced-directed-guided-and checked (due to the nature of an economic phenomenon and trend or due to the functioning of economic laws) by the government. The most enlightened part of the book is *Chapter 6, Birth and Death of Yugoslav Socially Self-Managed Socialism (1946-1991)*, in which the authors with a most profound sensibility explain the history of Yugoslav socialism, its socialist character, the functionality of its market mechanism, distinct self-management model and the specific international role of Yugoslavia. Since Yugoslavia was a rather

distinctive political and economic system, its unique historical position stimulated considerable academic interest. Hence, the lessons learned from former Yugoslavia and its successor states are also quite relevant for what is happening today in the European Union. The *Epilogue: Why is Socialism Doomed Always to Fail?* offers some concluding remarks as it presents scientific closure that recapitulates all the major issues of the book. It follows from the authors' statements that many times (and again) experiments of socialism have failed, for one reason or the other (violations of personal freedom and private property, promotion of radical equality and in one aspect atheism, development of relativism etc.). Therefore, socialism was an idea that could not be put in practice. I do not know if it would be too harsh to conclude that the final lesson given by the authors is that socialism was and always will be doomed to failure. This is because the basic postulate of the socialist approach is wrong, as it always tends to compare the theoretically perfect idea of socialism with practical but imperfect capitalism, which allows them to claim that socialism is superior to capitalism.

In less than two hundred pages written in English, authors Soumitra Sharma and Mato Mikić explain what economics as a social science has to do with social processes. Their approach has been always chronological, deductive as well as inductive, and topical, for they are able to connect many subjects that are apparently not related at all. It is a contribution which merits the respect and appreciation of every reader interested in the phenomenon of socialism. Based on the extensive experience of its authors, the book is designed for both rigorous and intuitive study and can be interesting to a wider readership: academics, university students of philosophy, theology, sociology, economics and political economy, as well as professionals interested in specific topics. The readers, both socialist and non-socialist alike, must clearly understand that socialism (as a

phenomenon with a 'lost cause'), which is described in this book, is not of any one particular school. Many scholars could take up this book and find missing in it that which they consider essential. What the authors try to do, however, is to give what seems to them the true essence of socialism as a socio-economic system (that 'drifted into oblivion'). The authors have *de facto* studied carefully the writings of various authors, and have stripped off from socialism those features which seem to them to be no part of it, while accentuating those that are indispensable.

Daniel Tomić

<https://doi.org/10.5559/di.28.4.11>

## **Zlatko Matijević** **LJUDI, STRANKE,** **DOGAĐAJI** **Prizori iz hrvatske** **političke povijesti**

Golden marketing-Tehnička knjiga, Zagreb, 2019., 334 str.

Pred nama je knjiga *Ljudi, stranke, događaji. Prizori iz hrvatske političke povijesti*, čiji je autor renomirani povjesničar dr. sc. Zlatko Matijević, znanstveni savjetnik u trajnom zvanju iz Hrvatskog instituta za povijest. Knjiga ima četiri poglavlja i sastavljena je od osam radova, koji na 334 stranice kronološki istražuju stranačko-političku povijest i crkveno-nacionalnu povijest hrvatskoga naroda tijekom "dugog" XIX. i prve polovine "kratkog" XX. stoljeća. Riječ je o odabranim izvornim znanstvenim radovi-

ma u rasponu od 1997. do 2017. godine, koje je autor većinom objavio najprije u zbornicima, dok je jedan rad objavljen u znanstvenom časopisu. Objedinjavanjem radova u knjigu omogućeno je da budu dostupni i širem krugu čitatelja, a ne samo znanstvenoj i stručnoj javnosti. Knjiga sadrži i devet relevantnih autorovih priloga koji svojim sadržajem upotpunjuju svaki od radova. Riječ je o izvornoj arhivskoj građi od koje većina dosad nije bila objavljena, a vezana je uz djelovanje osoba i političkih stranaka koje su obilježile nacionalnu povijest. Osim teksta i priloga knjiga sadrži autorov predgovor, popis kratica, opsežan izbor iz popisa literature i arhivskih izvora (više od 30 stranica), bibliografsku napomenu, imensko kazalo i bilješku o autoru.

Prvo poglavlje, naslovljeno *Doctor Faustus*, posvećeno je političaru i kulturnom djelatniku Izidoru Kršnjaviju i sadrži jedan rad. Riječ je o radu "Izidor Kršnjavi i Starčevićeva hrvatska stranka prava (1906.–1911.)". U njemu je autor rekonstruirao političko djelovanje Kršnjavoga nakon napuštanja mađaronske Narodne stranke, koja je na parlamentarnim izborima 1906. doživjela težak poraz i nestanak, te pristupanja pravašima frankovačke orijentacije, čime je napravio radikalni zaokret u namjeri da ostvari svoje političke zamisli koje su bile u suglasju s politikom velikoaustrijanskoga kruga okupljenog oko prijestolonasljednika Franje Ferdinanda. Podrobno su opisani Kršnjavijevi razlozi pristupanju frankovcima i prihvaćanje pravaškoga programa iz 1894., iako se, primjerice, nije slagao s gledištem frankovaca na hrvatske Srbe. U konačnici, autor ističe i razloge istupanja Kršnjavija iz frankovačke stranke, a to je u prvome redu bio njegov liberalizam, što nije bilo po volji kršćanskim socijalistima okupljenima oko lista *Hrvatstva*, koji su se 1910. ujedinili s frankovcima u političku stranku nazvanu Stranka prava. Rad je obogaćen vrlo vrijednim prilogom "Starčevićeva hrvatska stranka prava". Riječ je o pretisku knjižice iz 1907., koja sadrži pro-